

Abstract

The Delaware Department of Transportation proposes to improve the intersection known as Cooper's Corners, at U. S. 13 and 113A (State Street) in Dover, Kent County. The proposed work will include minimal encroachment upon a property at 1068 South State Street, now a restaurant known as The Nuts (K-222).

The Nuts was formerly known as the Cooper house, the seat of a large farm "a mile south of Dover." The intersection takes its name from the family that owned the farm during the nineteenth century.

A sawmill on nearby Puncheon (or Walker's) Run, below the present State Street bridge, operated in association with the Cooper farm before 1820. Both roads leading south from Cooper's Corner cross Puncheon Run.

On June 10, 1776, factions of the Kent County militia confronted one another here. The "Black Monday" events are regarded as the beginning of open revolution in Delaware. Five days later, the Delaware counties declared their independence from both Britain and Pennsylvania.

A branch of the Cooper family lived here until the twentieth century.

Since the house has been extensively remodelled several times, and since there are no other early remains visible above ground, it was determined that the site possesses considerable significance but lacks the physical integrity that would be necessary for its nomination to the National Register.

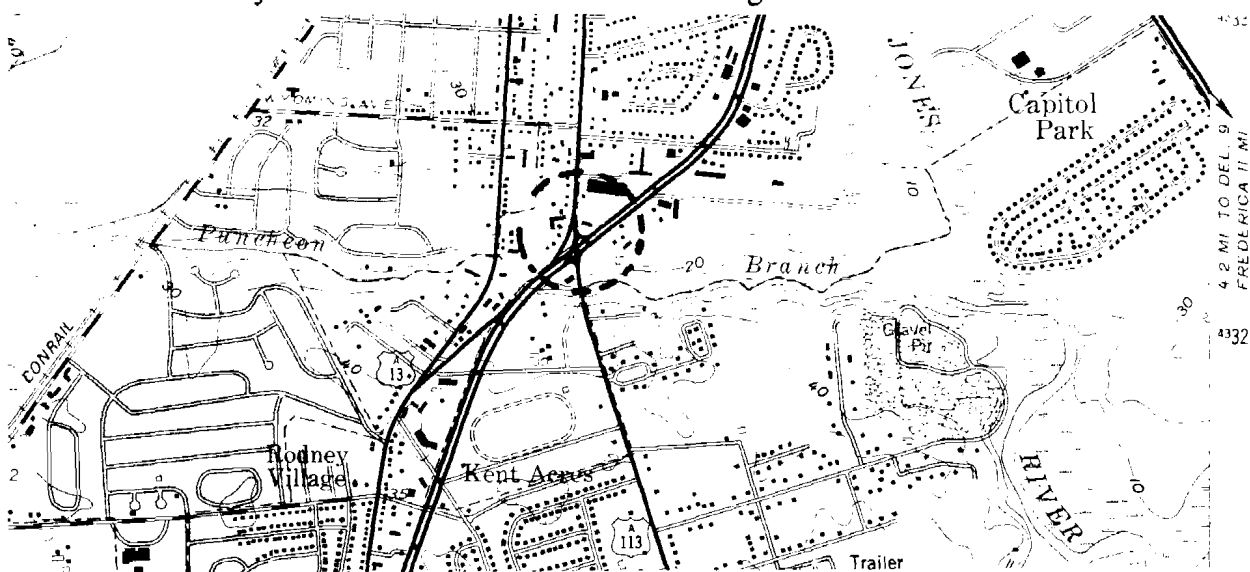


FIGURE 1: Site location, detail of USGS Dover 7.5' quadrangle, 1956, photorevised 1981. Cooper's Corner is circled.